

Teen Pregnancy in Nevada



Nevada State Health Division
Bureau of Family Health Services
3427 Goni Road, Suite 108
Carson City, NV 89706
www.state.nv.us/health/teen

Nevada Facts

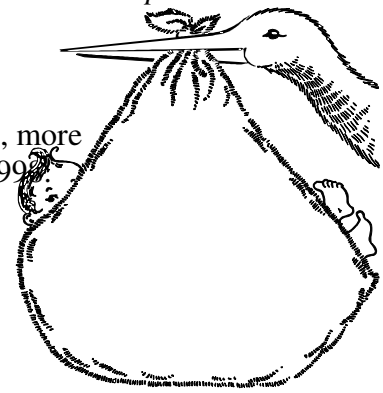
NEVADA HAS A HIGH PREGNANCY RATE!

On any given day in Nevada 13 girls are pregnant, half of them between the ages of 10 and 17.

In an effort to reduce these rates, the Nevada State Health Division and its partners have released two action plans containing recommendations for state and community members. The goal of the most recent action plan “Meeting the Challenge of the New Millennium” is to reduce pregnancy rates 1/3 by the year 2005. No more than 35 pregnancies per 1,000 among women ages 15 to 17. In 1999, the rate among 15 to 17 year olds was 45 per 1,000. This represents a 6.3 decrease since 1996. *Despite this decrease, the challenge still remains!*

DO MANY TEENS INTEND TO GET PREGNANT?

NO! According to the Baby Your Baby information referral line, more than 8,000 pregnant women called the information line during 1998. Of these, only 3% of callers indicated they intended to become pregnant at the time. This was true for callers between the ages of 15 and 19, as well.



WHO ARE THE FATHERS OF BABIES BORN TO TEENAGE MOTHERS?

They are ADULT men! Based on information provided about the fathers, 72% are over the age of 20.

WHAT ARE THE CONSEQUENCES THAT TEEN PARENTS AND THEIR CHILDREN FACE?

Fathers of babies born to teenage mothers complete fewer years of school, make less money on average, and are less likely to marry the mothers of their children than men who delay fatherhood.

- Teenage mothers are more likely to drop out of school and not earn a high school diploma, be single parents, and be dependant on Welfare than those who delay parenthood until their twenties.

- The children of teen mothers are more likely to be born prematurely and weigh less than 5.5 pounds, receive less medical care, be abused or abandoned, and drop out of school. Daughters of teenage mothers are more likely to become teenage mothers; sons of teenage mothers are more likely to go to prison.